



**Sabre sock society at the  
BVF Championships**

*Photo - Editor*

## Postponed and cancelled events

**BVF International**

**BVF Championships**



## CONTENTS

**Front Page**  
**Fun in Nottingham**

**Page 2**  
**Chairman's letter**

**Page 3**  
**BVF Calendar**

**Page 4**  
**Grapefruit and set square**

**Page 5**  
**BVF news**

**Page 6**  
**Volunteers**

**Pages 7**  
**BVF International results**

**Pages 8-10**  
**BVF International medallists - photos**

**Page 11**  
**BVF Championships results**

**Page 12**  
**BVF Championships medallists - photos**

**Page 13**  
**Caption competition**

**Page 14**  
**BVF contacts**

## Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

Who could ever have thought that in just a few weeks our whole world would be turned upside down? Like me, I expect you feel like you are living in a bad dream and want to wake up from it. Easter weekend has been and gone and it was not a usual one. It is very hard not to be able to see family and friends, and very worrying if family members and friends are NHS, other key workers or are vulnerable, but in a way a positive is that lockdown is giving us an opportunity to re-evaluate what is important in our lives and a time to slow down. There is no way of knowing of what the eventual outcome will be for any of us but I hope that you and your loved ones keep safe and keep well and it won't be too long before we can get back to our usual way of life and back to fencing.

The committee is keeping in touch by phone, email and WhatsApp. Our most recent decision is the cancellation of the WMO which would have been held June 13-14. At the present time, we are hoping to run the Winton Cup, but this will, of course, depend on the COVID-19 situation in the next few months. We will keep you informed.

The following events have been postponed, with further information to follow:

BVF Age Groups - 28-29 March (may be cancelled for this year)

European Veterans Team Championships - 21-24 May

RAF Open - 27-28 June

Commonwealth Veterans Championships - 23-25 July ([official statement](#))

These events have been cancelled:

Veterans Home Nations - 18 April

WMO - 13-14 June

All European ranking events 2019-2020 season.

At the current time it is not known if the Veterans World Championships, 24-30 October in Poreč, will go ahead but if so the selectors and committee will be considering options for selection in due course.

Going back to normality, which now seems a very long time ago, BVF has held two events this year - the BVF Open International in Guildford and the BVF Championships in Nottingham, both of which were very well attended and very well run. Thanks to all who were involved in running these events:

Graham Paul, Event Manager for BVF International; Brian Speight, MC for BVF International; Marcia Stretch, Event Manager for BVF Championships, with the very able assistance of David Sweeney and Lindsay Watkiss; DT, armourers, referees and all other volunteers. Thanks also to our sponsor for the BVF Championships, Micro-Mesh. We were all delighted to welcome Managing Director, James Underwood, at the Championships and the gala dinner.

Photos and results for both of these events are in this newsletter. (Other competition results will be published in the Summer newsletter.)

From the rest of the committee and me keep safe and keep well. Carpe diem.

Sincerely,

**Gillian Aghajan**

2020 Calendar	
Jan 4-5	BVF Ranking event Cambridge Winter Tournament, University of Cambridge Sports Centre, Philippa Fawcett Drive, Cambridge CB3 0AS
Jan 4-5	BVF Ranking event, EVF Epee Circuit and BVF Selection event BVF International Open, Spectrum Centre, Guildford Event Manager: Graham Paul BF Licence: 35973
Feb 1-2	European Ranking event EVF Foil Circuit, Faches
Feb 8-9	BVF Ranking event Merseyside Open, Greenbank Sports Academy
Feb 28- Mar 1	BVF Ranking event and BVF Selection event BVF Championships 2020, Nottingham :Friday Sabre; Saturday Foil: Sunday Epee Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Feb 29- Mar 1	European Ranking event EVF Epee Circuit, Kiev
Mar 7-8	European Ranking event EVF Sabre Circuit, Bologna - CANCELLED
Mar 21-22	European Ranking event EVF Foil Circuit, Graz - CANCELLED
Mar 28-29	BVF Ranking event and BVF Selection event Age Groups 2020, Manchester Fencing Centre Event Manager: Mike Swiffin - POSTPONED
Apr 4-5	European Ranking event EVF Sabre Circuit, Liege - CANCELLED
Apr 4-5	European Ranking event EVF Epee Circuit, Wroclaw - CANCELLED
Apr 18	Veterans Home International 2020, Bristol - venue TBC - CANCELLED
May 21-24	European Team Championships, Brussels, Belgium Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan POSTPONED
June 13-14	BVF Ranking event West Midlands Open 2020, Dudley, West Midlands Event Manager: Marcia Stretch - CANCELLED
July 23-25	RAF Open, Cosford - POSTPONED
July 23-25	Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships Unionville, Ontario - POSTPONED
Sep 19-20	BVF Ranking event Hampshire Vets Open, Portsmouth Tennis Centre Also a Senior Open on opposing days
Sep 26	BVF AGM, Telford Centre Hotel by Accor, Telford TF3 4NA 6:00pm
Sep 26-27	Veterans Winton Cup 2020, RAF Cosford Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Oct 24-30	Veterans World Championships, Poreč, Croatia Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan

## How to improve your fencing using a grapefruit and a set square

Are you ready to find out the best kept secret in fencing? How to drastically improve your fencing performance using only a grapefruit and a set square? Well, read on...

Now I have your attention... I'd like to talk to you a bit about the BVF, where it's going and how you can help it get there.

I haven't been on the Committee that long, but since joining I have taken on the role of Membership Secretary and attempted to raise the profile of the BVF by bombarding your inboxes with emails telling you what is on offer. Alongside me, the other committee members are managing the accounts, running the BVF events, dealing with GBR selection, producing ranking tables, organising the socials and updating the website and social media. We all work together and we all work hard. The BVF events are becoming bigger and better than ever and there seems to be a good vibe amongst the membership.



But we can do even better... We need to tap into all those potential members out there: so many accomplished fencers who have never heard of the vets, or who think we are just a bunch of stuffy geriatrics; so many adults who have started fencing with their kids and who could develop into competitive fencers if they knew the BVF existed; and so many older club fencers who could be tempted into competing if they thought they wouldn't get thrashed by an 18-year old. We just need to reach them.

And this is where you come in. We are a talented bunch and amongst us there must be some people with the energy to want to get involved and continue to develop BVF. Let me give you the low down. You need to be able to get to committee meetings, which are held centrally to where people are travelling from. They aren't that frequent (maybe four a year) but they do last quite a while. You need to be passionate in your desire to take the BVF up the fencing foodchain. And you need to have time to commit to carrying out your plans.

We particularly need help with: the accounts; the website; and marketing. But, if you have drive and determination, you will make a valuable contribution whatever your skills. Now please go, have a nice day, and have a think about whether you might want to take up the challenge and make a difference to this most awesome of organisations.

So that's it. Thanks for reading right down to this point. Sorry that I can't illuminate you about the benefits of using a grapefruit and a set square in your training regime, but I'm sure you'll come up with something!

Any questions about the Committee? Email me – [lucywrightbvf@gmail.com](mailto:lucywrightbvf@gmail.com)

**Lucy Wright**

## A message from Henry de Silva

"I am writing to wish all Veterans the best of health during this crisis and that fencing can resume as soon as possible."

Henry is in good health, is coping with the lockdown and has people doing his shopping for him.

## Sylvia Brown 1936-2020

It was with much sadness that BVF reported the death of Sylvia Brown in early March. Sylvia was a member of NVA/BVF since 1991 and was a regular competitor in NVA and BVF events. Sylvia was a strong minded woman and a kind hearted one, with a wicked sense of humour. We will miss her.

Please email John Mason [John@jrmason.demon.co.uk](mailto:John@jrmason.demon.co.uk) if you would like him to post your memories of Sylvia on her obituary page on the BVF website.



## Keep calm and fence on!

Some members have come up with ingenious ways to train during the lockdown and have been posting photos and videos on Facebook.

Examples below with thanks to:  
Mike McKay, Kev Milne and Neil Bowd



## Behind the Scenes



Photos - Editor

Photo of GA by Jane Hutchison

SPRING 2020

## BVF International - Medallists

<b>Mens Epee 1</b> 1 Julian <b>Fezard</b> FRA 2 Gregory <b>Goetz</b> FRA 3 Olivier <b>Lamothe</b> FRA 3 Dmitri <b>Tchaltsev</b> BEL	<b>Mens Epee 2</b> 1 Ludovic <b>Lesne</b> FRA 2 Eric <b>Grand D'Hautville</b> FRA 3 Gianni <b>Dalla Giovanna</b> ITA 3 John <b>Prime</b> GBR	<b>Mens Epee 3</b> 1 Herve Le <b>Barbier</b> FRA 2 Michael <b>Burkadt</b> GER 3 Hugh <b>Kernohan</b> GBR 4 Umberton <b>Spano</b> ITA	<b>Mens Epee 4</b> 1 Gerd <b>Oswald</b> GER 2 Robin <b>Davenport</b> GBR 3 Chris <b>Green</b> GBR 3 William <b>Osbaldeston</b> GBR
<b>Womens Epee 1</b> 1 Sophie <b>Saudo</b> FRA 2 Eszter <b>Vitalyos</b> HUN 3 Kristina <b>Herczeg</b> HUN 3 Nathalie <b>Vandewalle</b> BEL	<b>Womens Epee 2</b> 1 Gianni <b>Hablützel-Bürki</b> SUI 2 Florence <b>Pagny</b> FRA 3 Rosa <b>Cano Diosa</b> ESP 3 Judit <b>Gyurkan</b> HUN	<b>Womens Epee 3</b> 1 Jane <b>Clayton</b> GBR 2 Jenny <b>Morris</b> GBR 3 Adriana <b>Albini</b> ITA 3 Jane <b>Hutchison</b> GBR	<b>Womens Epee 4</b> 1 Marie Chantal <b>Demaille</b> FRA 2 Susan <b>Uff</b> GBR 3 Fiona <b>Haldane</b> GBR 3 Jenny <b>Overy-Osbaldeston</b> GBR
<b>Mens Foil 1</b> 1 Graham <b>Reid</b> GBR 2 Nick <b>Mort</b> GBR 3 Paul <b>Veazey</b> GBR 3 Mark <b>Vice</b> GBR	<b>Mens Foil 2</b> 1 Kola <b>Abidogun</b> GBR 2 Austen <b>Rose</b> GBR 3 Gerry <b>Gajadharsingh</b> IRL 3 Adrian <b>Griffin</b> GBR	<b>Mens Foil 3</b> 1 Paul <b>Wedge</b> GBR 2 Anthony <b>Bartlett</b> GBR 3 Michael <b>Medhurst</b> GBR 3 John <b>Troiano</b> GBR	<b>Mens Foil 4</b> 1 Stephen <b>Fox</b> GBR 2 Graham <b>Paul</b> GBR 3 Mike <b>Bradbury</b> GBR 3 Paul <b>Harden</b> GBR
<b>Womens Foil 1</b> 1 Beatrice <b>Taylor</b> GBR 2 Nicola <b>Hull</b> GBR 3 Karina <b>Calderon Brown</b> GBR 4 Erkia <b>Cserny</b> GBR	<b>Womens Foil 2</b> 1 Marion <b>Thomas</b> GBR 2 Kate <b>O'Connell</b> GBR 3 Jacqueline <b>Hibbert</b> GBR 3 Fiona <b>Turnbull</b> GBR	<b>Womens Foil 3</b> 1 Caron <b>Hale</b> GBR 2 Jenny <b>Morris</b> GBR 3 Sheila <b>Anderson</b> GBR 3 Gillian <b>Worman</b> GBR	<b>Womens Foil 4</b> 1 Clare <b>Halsted</b> GBR 2 Marie Chantal <b>Demaille</b> FRA 3 Margaret <b>Myers</b> GBR 3 Susan <b>Uff</b> GBR
<b>Mens Sabre 1</b> 1 Steve <b>Pope</b> GBR 2 Jim <b>Stevens</b> CAN 3 Mo <b>Mansoori</b> GBR 3 Rubin <b>Nash</b> GBR	<b>Mens Sabre 2</b> 1 Emmanuel <b>Therond</b> GBR 2 Neil <b>Bowd</b> GBR 3 Tony <b>Baston-Hall</b> GBR 4 Adrian <b>Griffin</b> GBR	<b>Mens Sabre 3</b> 1 Carl <b>Morris</b> GBR 2 Chris <b>Prevett</b> GBR 3 Chris <b>Cranston-Selby</b> GBR 3 Anthony <b>Silver</b> GBR	<b>Mens Sabre 4</b> 1 Richard <b>Cohen</b> GBR 2 Bill <b>Osbaldeston</b> GBR 3 Michael <b>Compton</b> GBR 3 Stephen <b>Fox</b> GBR
<b>Womens Sabre 1</b> 1 Wendy <b>Yamo</b> CAN 2 Lucy <b>Wright</b> GBR	<b>Womens Sabre 2</b> 1 Beth <b>Davidson</b> GBR 2 Michele <b>Narey</b> GBR 3 Jacqueline <b>Esimaje-Heath</b> GBR 4 Joanne <b>Yeates</b> GBR	<b>Womens Sabre 3</b> 1 Jane <b>Hutchison</b> GBR 2 Jenny <b>Morris</b> GBR 3 Jane <b>Clayton</b> GBR 3 Yvonne <b>Walls</b> GBR	<b>Womens Sabre 4</b> 1 Vivien <b>Frith</b> GBR 2 Silvia <b>Brown</b> GBR 3 Marie Chantal <b>Demaille</b> FRA 3 Susan <b>Uff</b> GBR





**MS 2**



**WF 3**



**MF 4**



**WS 2**



**WF 4**



**MF 3**



**WS 3**



**WS 4**



**WS 1**



**MS 4**



**WE 4**



**ME 4**



**ME 3**



**WE 3**



**MF 1**



**MS 1**

## BVF Championships Medallists

### Mens Foil

1	Kola ABIDOGUN	Cat 2 Medal
2	Mike MCKAY	
3T	Alexander ELLISON	
3T	Paul VEAZEY	Cat 1 Medal
5	John TROIANO	Cat 3 Medal
20	Graham PAUL	Cat 4 Medal

### Womens Foil

1	Amanda BAXENDALE	Cat 2 Medal
2	Kate O'CONNELL	
3T	Gillian WORMAN	
3T	Sheila ANDERSON	Cat 3 Medal
5	Beatrice TAYLOR	Cat 1 Medal
14	Susan UFF	Cat 4 Medal

### Mens Epee

1	Neal MALLETT	Cat 3 Medal
2	Will MILLER	Cat 2 Medal
3T	Darcy GATES	
3T	Chris HOWSER	Cat 1 Medal
10	Robin DAVENPORT	Cat 4 Medal

### Womens Epee

1	Nicola HULL	Cat 1 Medal
2	Sarah BUDDEN	Cat 2 Medal
3T	Ingrid HESKETT	
3T	Marg ONIYE	
5	Caron HALE	Cat 3 Medal
15	Susan UFF	Cat 4 Medal

### Mens Sabre

1	Nick FLETCHER	Cat 1 Medal
2	Mo MANSOORI	
3T	Duncan ROWLANDS	Cat 2 Medal
3T	Rubin NASH	
14	Carl MORRIS	Cat 3 Medal
30	Malcolm CAWTON	Cat 4 Medal

### Womens Sabre

1	Beth DAVIDSON	Cat 2 Medal
2	Michele NAREY	
3T	Jacqueline ESIMAJE-HEATH	
3T	Caroline MARTIN	
6	Vivien FRITH	Cat 4 Medal
7	Yvonne WALLS	Cat 3 Medal
8	Alexandra SAPETSCHNIG	Cat 1 Medal

### Mens Champion at Arms

Alexander ELLISON

### Womens Champion at Arms

Caron HALE

Full results here:

<http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/results.shtml>

## BVF Championships medallists



**MS**



**WS**



**WF with James Underwood,  
Managing Director, Micro-Mesh**



**MF with James Underwood**



**ME with Lawrence Burr,  
Epee Club Vice President  
(Not in photo - Robin Davenport)**



**WE**

**Caption  
Competition  
Spring 2020**

Send your entry to Editor  
[g.aghajan@btinternet.com](mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com)

**Editor's Note:**

The BVF newsletter is your voice: a chance for you to put forward your views, send reports, letters, photos or articles.

Please speak up!

Send to me: [g.aghajan@btinternet.com](mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com)

**Editor**

**PLEASE NOTE**

Any articles or letters for the Summer newsletter should be sent to:

Gillian Aghajan  
by 14th June 2020

email:  
[g.aghajan@btinternet.com](mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com)



**Caption  
Competition**

**December 2019**











Editor's choice (seen on Facebook):

*"Are you sure that's a selfie stick? It looks like a pencil to me..."*  
**Ceri Thomas**



**Photos - Editor**

## BVF contacts

<b>Life President</b>		<b>Henry de Silva</b> 	
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[malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk](mailto:malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk)

IT Consultant

**John Mason**



[John@jrmason.demon.co.uk](mailto:John@jrmason.demon.co.uk)

### Sub-Committees

#### Selectors

Carl Morris (Chairman)  
Jane Hutchison  
Neal Mallett  
Gillian Worman

#### Ranking System

John Mason (Chairman)  
Hugh Kernohan  
Graham Paul  
Lindsay Watkiss